

Bangalore Mirror

ON SATURDAY

TEMP Max 31 | Min 16 | Humidity 36%

Misty morning and partly cloudy

Sensex 57,832 | Nifty 17,276 | Gold 50,009 | Silver 63,927 | Dollar 74.66 | Euro 84.57 | GBP 101.41



PAGE 2



PAGE 9

As pandemic alters routines of citizens, abandoned skywalks of Bengaluru turn miscreants' lairs in absence of proper maintenance

LOOK, SKYWALKER

'51 skywalks in city, a few being built'

| Bellie.Thomas
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @Bellie_MIRROR

The pandemic had not only hit the transport and mobility sectors but also public utilities like skywalks in the city.

Citizens do not frequent such public conveniences nowadays since they do not find these reliable — in all probability, the lifts would be switched off and one has to climb the flight of stairs — a drag indeed — to cross the road.

Certain skywalks in Bengaluru, meanwhile, have turned dens for miscreants who use the utilities as hideouts — consuming alcohol and littering the space, while the public altogether abandon the facilities.

Social activist Arun Prasad happened to visit such a skywalk near the Lakkasandra bus stop close to NIMHANS on Hosur Road, recently: "I found a non-operational lift; the surroundings were littered with empty alcohol bottles, tetra packs, and plastic cups. Lift doors had residue of pan masala spat on the walls alongside cigarette butts strewn all over the floor," Prasad told Bangalore Mirror.

Prasad clicked some pictures, shot videos and shared them on a few WhatsApp groups which had BBMP officials as members. "The very next day, a few cleaners turned up at the skywalk in question and



When the corporation develops and constructs skywalks, it should have a dedicated budget and plan for maintenance....

— Ashish Verma, IISc

cleaned up the litter; still the lifts don't function and hardly anyone uses the skywalk as the stairs are so steep," Prasad added.

This is not the only skywalk in the city that is in this condi-

tion. "Several other skywalks are also reeling under similar issues as travel restrictions/lockdowns and work-from-home norms led people to not come out of their homes. Even if they did, they preferred personal vehicles and

did not opt for public transport or its utilities," said Ananth Naik, a software engineer.

IISc professor and urban planner Ashish Verma said by and large the demand for usage of

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12 >>

We will Survive

How a victim of domestic violence is now helping other women to be independent



| Pragna L. Krupa
pragna.krupa@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @Pragna_MIRROR

A 40-year-old domestic violence survivor is empowering women, providing employment to them through her tailoring business.

Bhagyamma HC, a resident of Sunkadakatte, had a tough life — she married at an early age and her abusive husband had been harassing her everyday, she tells BM.

Bhagyamma has completed SSLC and has two children aged 21 and 17 pursuing university education.

Just after having her first child, her husband started to abuse her and would often engage in fights: "My younger daughter had a hole in her heart; she had to undergo surgery at the age of four. Just then, my husband abandoned us saying he wasn't ready to take care of the medical bills and was okay to let our daughter die instead. With great difficulty and help from a lot of people, I got her operated and treated. Though we were living together, he refused to pay for the children's education. He would beat me up often. I had attempted suicide and even approached the local police station, seeking help. My husband married another woman four years ago, and abandoned us," she said.

As nothing worked, she approached the police commissioner's office three years ago, along with her children seeking help — thereafter, she was counselled at the Parihar helpline/family counselling centre.

Soon after, Bhagyamma attended a skill

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12 >>

Land acquisition for Metro in a stalemate

Sridhar Vivan
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @sridharvMIRROR

The land acquisition issue for Shettigere depot is now turning out to be a bottleneck for the airport metro line. According to the Metro officials, the Phase 2B extension (Airport Line-K R Puram to Kempegowda International Airport) is 38 kilometres in length.

One of the crucial elements for this stretch is the construction of a Metro depot at Shettigere. Out of 23 acres of land required, 18 acres have already been transferred by the State Government to the BMRC. However, the issue is with the remaining five acres of land. Sources in the BMRC said that the five-acre land parcel is under litigation and is pending with the Special Deputy Commissioner, Bengaluru Urban District, for passing

of orders. BMRC has now requested the State Government to transfer 4-34 acre of land adjacent to the 18 acres which have already been granted for the depot. The said proposal is now pending with the Deputy Commissioner.

Meanwhile, land acquisition issues plague other stretches too. On the 18.5-kilometre stretch from New Line - R V Road - Bommasandra, out of 3,09,379.97 sqm required, 3,08,232.00 sqm has been acquired and handed over to the engineering section. The final notification for acquisition of an additional area of 1147.97 sqm has been approved by the Government and the Land Committee report is awaited.

In the case of 22-kilometre stretch for Reach-6 (New Line - Kalena Agrahara - IIMB - Nagawara), an additional area of 222.90 sqm for Pottery Town Station is required, according to a document by BMRC. Similarly,



Namma Metro work in progress between K R Puram and Kempegowda International Airport

additional land (582.25 sqm) is required for viaduct, 157.10 sqm for Nagawara Metro Station and 883.00 sqm for RMS Station (Vellara Station).

As of now, the land acquisition is

completely complete on the Green Line. The three-kilometre stretch of Reach-3C (Nagasandra - Bangalore International Exhibition Centre) has had all land required to be acquired

and handed over to the engineering section.

Acquisition of additional area of 1885.11 sqm for providing road links to Chikkabidarakallu Metro Station from Anchepalya and other villages via Jindal-Prestige Layout has been set aside by the High Court. Now a private construction company has agreed to provide an approach road of 12.5 wide through its property.

Status quo for civil work

The Reach 5-P-2 (Hosa Road - Bommanahalli) has been completed while Bommasandra to Hosa Road has seen 92 per cent completion while Bommanahalli to RV Road stretch is 76 per cent complete. The stretches which are lagging behind are Kalena Agrahara to Swagath Cross Road at just 30 per cent work completed while Central Silk Board to KR Puram and airport has seen only 14.5 per cent progress.

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4 THINGS TO DO

01 Shop till you drop

Hi Life Exhibition, one of the most exciting and exclusive fashion exhibitions of India with exclusive designs of haute couture, personal style, home décor and luxury products, is back in the city. The top renowned designers from across India will be showcasing some of their best designer works of art, from wedding ensembles, designer apparels and jewellery to fashion accessories, home accessories to furnishing concepts to new-age art.

Where: The Lalit Ashok, Seshadripuram
When: Feb 19 - 21



03 Food for the soul

Catch Antaranga's new play Project Nagna. This play is being performed as a part of the Nataka Bengaluru Theatre festival. The play is a translation of a famous English play, PROJECT S.T.R.I.P. written by well-known playwright Ram Ganesh Kamatam. Kamatam's play is an absorbing attempt to portray the dilemma between development and the plight of the people affected by it.

Where: Kalagrama, Mallathahalli
When: Feb 19, 7pm
Tickets: Rs 70, bookmyshow.com



02 Musings and more

This Saturday Ranga Shankara will host 'Ulat Ved Ki Baani' or 'The Wisdom of Upside - Down

Vedas' by Prashant Parvataneni. In collaboration with The Kabir Project, this session brings to you a reflection on 'Ulatbaansi' songs gathered from the oral traditions of India as portals to imagine radical new worlds against the drudgeries of convention. Prashant Parvataneni is an independent writer and researcher based in Bengaluru. He works with the Kabir Project on an archive of Bhakti, Sufi, and Baul songs gathered from the oral traditions of India. In the world of 'Ulatbaansi' by Kabir and other mystic poets, the limits of reason and possibility are challenged and hierarchies playfully dismantled.

Where: Ranga Shankara
When: Feb 19, 5:30 pm
Entry: Free, 080 26493982



04 Orange Rain

Orange Rain is an acoustic band from Bengaluru who have been influenced by a wide array of artistes and musical styles from across the country. Sign up for a lovely evening of soul-stirring music with musician Twinkle.

Where: Lahe Lahe, Indiranagar
When: Feb 19, 7-9 pm
Register: 9886294444

No holds barred at bar leaves man with broken nose

Pragna L Krupa
pragna.krupa@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

A 42-year-old city-based businessman was allegedly beaten up by a drunk stranger and his friends who picked up a fight with him for no obvious reason and left him with a broken nose on Monday night in Whitefield.

Prashanth (name changed), a resident of Hagadur Main Road, has filed a complaint with the Whitefield police against the unknown person for assaulting him. Prashanth said that on Monday night, he went to a bar and restaurant in Siddapura in Whitefield after finishing work to have a drink and relax. He said he got to the bar around 9:30 pm and sat down for a drink on the first floor where there were very few people. "It was calm and I was enjoying my drink when a group of men who were drunk, came upstairs and started to pick a fight with me. I did not know them and one of them started abusing me so we got into an argument," he said. In the middle of this, one of the

men allegedly took a beer bottle and broke it on his head. "I had no idea who these people were and why they were fighting with me and I can't even recall on what topic they had picked up the fight. I was lucky enough not to get a cut injury and only sustained inflammation on my head. Right after this, the person punched me on my nose and it started to bleed," he said. Before Prashanth could react, the men scooted from the spot and though he went down behind them to stop them, they fled. "I tried to enquire about them at the bar but no one had any information. I then called the police and took their help to file a complaint and returned home."

He said that post the incident, he got his nose scanned and found out that he had fractured it. Whitefield police have registered a case under IPC section 506 (criminal intimidation), 341 (wrongful restraint), 504 (intentional insult with intent to provoke breach of peace), 324 (voluntarily causing hurt by weapons or means) and 323 (voluntarily causing hurt). Further investigation is underway.

MLC demands audit for all B'luru flyovers

After experts, MLCs are also demanding an audit of flyovers in Bengaluru. During Thursday's Legislative Council, MLC PR Ramesh expressed concern regarding the quality of Peenya Flyover. He demanded the state government conduct an audit of all flyovers. He said the audit was essential for safety of motorists.

"It is shocking to know a flyover which cost crores has become defective in 10 years. Motorists suffered when the flyover was shut for over 50 days. I request the state gov-



HANGING BRIDGES
"Time to audit all overpasses in Bengaluru"

On Feb 17, BM reported: Experts demand government make Non-Destructive Tests for flyovers, underpasses and Metro pillars and piers mandatory

ernment to check if all elevated corridors in the city

are fit for driving," he said.

Meanwhile, BBMP officials claimed all flyovers within BBMP limits are safe. A senior BBMP official said so far 66 flyovers or grade separators have been constructed either by BBMP or BDA in Bengaluru. Cracks appeared on two flyovers built by BDA in the last few

years. Sumanahalli Flyover was even shut for traffic for a bit till officials fixed the problem. BBMP officials said a few grade separators in the city were two to three decades old but were in good condition. BBMP officials said if there is a demand, BBMP can ask IISc to look into it.

—Naveen Shivanna

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Overwhelming response to Bengaluru Chancellors Conclave 2022

Response connect initiative

The Bengaluru Chancellors' Conclave 2022 evoked positive responses from academicians, students and the higher education department. The event, first-of-its kind in Karnataka, united all stakeholders on a common platform. The unique programme, organised by Bangalore Mirror (BM) and Vijay Karnataka (VK) in partnership with AD6 Advertising created a conducive atmosphere for them to brainstorm to make Bengaluru a hub for education. BM spoke with two key forces behind this successful programme: MR Sudhakar, Director, AD6 Advertising and Kalicharan Rai, Business Head (Karnataka), MMCL. Take a look at what they had to say:



MR Sudhakar,
Director, AD6
Advertising

and yielded promises to solve many issues.

The programme busted the myth that all educationists never come together on one platform with the presence of the who's whos. This platform gave them a common voice to raise issues and get them addressed.

What were the biggest takeaways from the first Bengaluru Chancellors' Conclave?

We have been interacting with various educational institutions for a long time. We noticed a communication gap between institutions and the government in case of certain issues. The conclave acted as a bridge by creating a platform for educationists to raise concerns with government officials direct-



Education is about learning. What were the learning points from the Bengaluru Chancellors' Conclave?

A need for a platform like this has existed for a while. Now, everyone is positive

about positive results of this programme. We learned a conclave of this magnitude can do wonders for the education sector. The programme proved to be a quintessential need for the education sector. Generally, issues are highlighted in media.

But, this conclave took us a step forward. It helped us take the lead in taking issues faced by the sector to a logical end. Generally, organisers set the agenda. However, the specialty of this conclave was that the educationists set the agenda; it was apt.

What was the feedback from educationists like?

We have received a wonderful response; all educationists are very happy. I feel that this is the first time that chancellors and institution promoters came together with other academicians. I truly thank BM and VK for creating this unique platform.

The conclave with its multiple sessions was a real icebreaker for many. We were happy to see chancellors and young, budding education entrepreneurs taking the lead. The feedback we got from the educationists has been so overwhelming; it has motivated us to organise more unique programmes in the future. I also thank Sudhakar for being instrumental in making this programme a big success.

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Thanks to Ad6 Advertising and premier Educational Institutions of Bengaluru making it a success

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Ongoing beautification work on the stretch expected to make it as fancy as a prime city hub

Prakash V
 mybangaloremirror
 @timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Hesaraghatta Road is all set to get a swanky look shortly. The work on widening and beautification of this stretch has already begun. A senior BBMP engineer said, "We currently have a median on Hesaraghatta Road where saplings have been planted. Now, we are remodelling the median to give it a modern look without the saplings being harmed. As of now, the streetlights are on either side of the road. Now, we plan to install street lights on the medians for which the place was left empty earlier."

Hesaraghatta Road is the key road that connects Tumkur Road (8th mile) to Hesaraghatta. The development of this area has been



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one of the fastest and most of the big shops and apartment complexes have made this their destination. Even multinationals like IKEA are now coming up near Hesaraghatta road. Giving more details on the beautification of Hesaraghatta Road, the engineer said, "We are also constructing drains on either side. Pedestrian safety is paramount for us. We will be constructing footpaths on either side of the road so that the pedestrians need not step on the road and instead walk on the footpaths which are currently absent. Once the ground work is done, the road will get fresh asphalt. This will give a smooth experience for all those heading towards Hesaraghatta as they can easily reach their destinations."

As per the project, the four-laning and widening work has been taken up from 8th mile to Chikkabanavara. Currently, the road near Chikkasandra is a two-lane one. "We are in talks with BWSSB to get additional land from the pipeline area for making it four-lane. We are also acquiring a few properties which have been encroached upon. This will give us additional land to make it a complete four-lane road. Near Chikkabanavara railway station, we will be constructing a retaining wall and then widen and strengthen the road so that people can have a nice driving experience."

The stretch is turning out to be a preferred choice for affordable property buying. A property developer told Bangalore Mirror, "Though many want to buy property so that they can construct an individual house, the high cost of land forces them to abandon their plans. However, things are quite

'Properties start from as economical as Rs 5 lakh'



The areas around Hesaraghatta and Nelamangala have great potential for development. In fact, Nelamangala is like a gateway that connects north Bengaluru. An intermediate 320-foot ring road connects it to all parts of the city. Hesaraghatta has some premiere institutes like Indian Institute of Horticulture and Adarsha Film Institute. A 120-foot road connects Nelamangala to Doddaballapur which is also a key connecting road to the airport. An APMC yard is close by which will aid the development further. The Dobbaspeta industrial area sector houses many small scale industries. There are a number of educational institutions like Harvard group of institutions, Swamy Vivekananda Institute of Technology, Shivakumar Swamy College of Engineering, Harsha hospital, MS Ramaiah group of institutions, Navkis residential school and Nelamangala RTO office. There is also a proposal to connect the Metro from Nagasandra to Nelamangala.

**Benson K Matthew, Managing Director
 MKB Developers and Promoters**

different on Hesaraghatta Road. For example, there are so many properties where the starting prices of properties start from as economical as Rs 5 lakh. There are multiple plots available for Rs 10 lakh as well. This means that for all those who want to buy property to construct a house or want to buy a property for the future or those who want to buy property to wait for some time and then sell it for a higher price, Hesaraghatta Road offers a lot of opportunities."

Another property developer added, "There are a number of industries coming up in Bengaluru North and people are planning to invest in and around Hesaraghatta."

The new road and other amenities will make

Hesaraghatta Road a dream destination for many property buyers as many wanted to buy their dream property and settle down in areas in and around this road. Now, with many properties coming up around Hesaraghatta Road, many buyers are planning to have their dream houses at this location. Greenery is another big attraction. Every weekend people travel to many places in and around Hesaraghatta for its greenery. So, for those who buy property, then it will be enjoyable every day. "This is the reason why people want to move out of CBD areas. Many places in the CBD area don't offer scope for expansion but Hesaraghatta Road is the place offering everything," added a property developer.

Housing sector evades pandemic blues

While the pandemic negatively impacted most business sectors, contrary to common perception, the housing sector in Bengaluru did not suffer, the Economic Survey 2021-22 reveals

The survey states housing prices increased during the first and second covid-19 waves, contrary to expectations that they would fall. It says there was a 2.7 per cent and 5.3 per cent increase in housing prices during the first financial quarter of 2020 and 2021 respectively, over pre-pandemic levels of the first financial quarter of 2019.

Data from the Housing Price Index (HPI) of National Housing Bank (NHB) agrees with this positive trend for Bengaluru, where the composite index for June 2019 was pegged at 113, June 2020 at 116, and June 2021 at 119.

This upward mobility in prices is also reflected in an increase in housing transactions, which spiked by more than 40 per cent in the second covid-19 wave (April-June 2021) over pre-pandemic levels of 2019's first financial quarter.

The report suggests pent up demand and improvement in affordability in response to measures taken by the government such as low-



ering interest rates, reduction in circle rates, and cut in stamp duty, made houses affordable to buyers despite Covid-19's devastating impact on the Indian economy.

Nasir Sharif, joint secretary, Bangalore Realtors Association India (BRAI), said school and work from home became a pivotal reason for people to buy larger living spaces. "The lockdown was actually a busy time for us," he said. "There was a 5-10 per cent increase in business but availability of good housing options was low in areas near the Metro or tech parks."

Sharif said the 'Rs 1 crore plus' market did well, but not so budget-friendly housing options. However, Anthony Raj, owner of a realty firm, did not agree, saying the housing market did not "flourish". "Desperate sellers sold properties for far less than intended," he said. "Builders' inventories were getting stale, so they bought their own properties to avoid a price drop."

But others warn of a future where affordable housing would get scarcer and a home would no longer be categorised as a necessity. "Developers in Bengaluru are beginning to

capitalise on the most elite segment of the housing market, for which there are buyers," said Sudeshna Mitra, lead-academics and research, Indian Institute for Human Settlements. "This is borne out by increasing average price of transactions. But realtors are not learning how to cater to middle-low income demand. There is an internal crisis that needs to be fixed as the sector is far too focused on the high end of the price segment. Soon, the formalised sector may not have the capacity to deliver a basic home."

Speaking about rental transactions, Swastik Harish, an independent researcher, said that over Rs 1.2 lakh crore (about 1 per cent of India's GDP) worth of transactions take place in the urban rental market which is by and large informal. Properties are still controlled by traditional land-owning classes who hold their land and assets until their asking price is matched. "Transactions, as recorded in the Economic Survey are from the formal market. Rental housing is largely a poor person's market. Bengaluru is still an emerging real estate market because there is still urban land to develop, unlike Mumbai or Delhi which are saturated and their demand absorbed by peripheral towns," he said.

Mitra said this is a global problem in financialised housing markets, as industry finance predominantly seeks projects with high returns. The main theme underlying the uptick in housing transactions appears to be that many houses were bought or sold on new lands situated on the periphery of BBMP limits, but there is also a dearth of good housing for the middle classes, Mitra said.

- Times Property

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'Demand for housing continues to be robust'

The Indian real estate market is on an upward cycle and residential housing continues to be the star of the sector, HDFC Ltd Chairman Deepak Parekh said on Thursday.

He added that unlike many other Western countries, the demand for housing in India is from genuine homebuyers and is not speculative in nature. "The IndiaN real estate market is on an upward cycle which bodes



well for all of us. The big star of the real estate sector continues to remain residential housing in India. I hardly need to reiterate that demand for housing in India continues to remain robust," Parekh said while addressing the CII Real Estate event.

The greatest mark of confidence has been the strong pipeline of new launches, surpassing pre-pandemic levels, he said.

PTI

GOLDEN CHANCE to buy your dream site

VK Property Expo powered by Bangalore Mirror is creating a congregating platform for property developers and customers



Here is your golden chance to buy your dream house or property. The VK Property Expo, powered by Bangalore Mirror, will be held on February 26 and 27 (Saturday and Sunday) at Chandra Sagar Kalyan Mahal (Jayanagar 2nd Block). This expo will provide a platform to buy the property or house of your choice at the most affordable rates. This will also be a one-stop-shop for all the major property and real estate developers to offer their products to the customers.

Affordable rates

The major highlight of the VK Property Expo is that it will give customers a chance to interact with property developers and also get a sneak peek of what is being offered. The customers also get a chance to know more about various properties being developed both inside the city, as well as outskirts, at affordable rates. The best part is that the expo will offer wide choices for varied customers. The price of the plots from Rs 6 lakh and apartments from Rs 18 lakh.

Keep no doubts

This year's VK Property Expo is bigger and better as more than 20 property developers will be offering their products. The visitors to the expo will get a chance to buy properties approved by RERA, BDA or BMRDA.

The customers get a chance to have detailed discussion with the developers and get their doubts clarified. Many developers are also organising

site visits for customers to visit and select their dream plots.

Free info

As buying a house or a property is a lifetime investment for many, customers tend to make a lot of inquiries and research before they invest. So, VK Property Expo will also give a chance for the customers to interact with the experts in the field who can guide on properties and various processes attached with buying. Some of the important questions like where to buy an affordable property in Bengaluru? Which area has potential for future development? value of properties, what are amenities available in apartment complexes? Many customers are eagerly waiting for the expo as instead of visiting each developer, this expo is providing a platform where a customer can meet all the major developers under one roof.

Golden hour

With the economy back on track, it is the right time to invest/buy property/houses. On top of this, the State Government has cut down the stamp duty on flats costing Rs 45 lakh. Many banks are offering low interest rates. Hence, this is definitely a golden chance for all of those dreaming of owning a property and house. So, block your dates for Feb 26 and 27 as you are invited for the VK Property Expo. The entry is free and will be open to public between 10 am to 7 pm. For more details, feel free to call Mahesh Malagi 9886721857.



VK
ವಿಜಯ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ
VIJAY KARNATAKA
ಕರ್ನಾಟಕದಲ್ಲಿ ಅತಿ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಮನೆಗಳನ್ನು ಹೊಂದಿರುವ ದಿನ ಪತ್ರಿಕೆ

ನಿಮ್ಮ ಕನಸಿನ ಮನೆ/ ಸ್ಟೆಟ್ ಖರೀದಿಸಲು
ಉತ್ತಮ ಅವಕಾಶ
ಮಿಸ್ ಮಾಡ್ಕೋಬೇಡಿ
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ಹೌದು... VK ಪ್ರಾಪರ್ಟಿ ಎಕ್ಸ್‌ಪೋ ಮತ್ತೆ ಬಂದಿದೆ. ಪ್ರತಿಷ್ಠಿತ ರಿಯಲ್ ಎಸ್ಟೇಟ್ ಕಂಪನಿಗಳು ರೇರಾ/ ಬಿಡಿಎ / ಜಿಎಂಆರ್‌ಡಿಎ ಅನುಮೋದಿತ ಆಯ್ಕೆಗಳೊಂದಿಗೆ ಈ ಬಾರಿಯ ಎಕ್ಸ್‌ಪೋದಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸುತ್ತಿವೆ...

ಇದೇ ತಿಂಗಳು 26-27ನೇ ಶನಿವಾರ ಮತ್ತು ಭಾನುವಾರ ನಡೆಯುವ ಈ ಎಕ್ಸ್‌ಪೋದಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾಲ್ಗೊಂಡು ಕನಸಿನ ಸ್ಟೆಟ್ / ಮನೆಗಳನ್ನು ಖರೀದಿಸಲು ಸುವರ್ಣಾವಕಾಶ!

ಸ್ಥಳ: ಚಂದ್ರ ಸಾಗರ್ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಮಹಲ್, 2ನೇ ಹಂತ, ಜಯನಗರ (ಅಶೋಕ ಪಿಲ್ಲರ್ ಹತ್ತಿರ), ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-560011

ಸಮಯ: ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 10:00 ರಿಂದ ಸಂಜೆ 7:00 ರವರೆಗೆ

ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗೆ ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಿ:

ಮಹೇಶ್: 9886721857

I Naveen Shivanna
mybangaloremirror
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Kanakapura Road is turning out to be a preferred destination for land or apartment buyers. Many want to construct a house nearby Kanakapura Road, which is known for its greenery. Bengalureans feel that staying near Kanakapura Road provides them an opportunity to stay in a green and stress-free environment.

The properties here also acts as a potential investment for those who want to invest in property for the future. As the outskirts of Bengaluru especially those in Kanakapura areas have lot of greenery, the property owners feel as if they are having a green luxurious life and living in midst of a green zone.

Rajeshwar K, a techie said that he prefers areas around Kanakapura Road as they are surrounded by hills and free from air pollution. The area is also very serene. A property developer said, "Investing in a property near Kanakapura Road is the best investment as it provides the best returns in the long run."

Kanakapura Road is seeing the major infrastructure push. There is a proposal to four-lane the road till Kanakapura and then make it a paved two lane till Karnataka border which connects Sathyamangalam and Coimbatore. Bypasses have been planned at important places like



ABODE IN THE GREEN ZONE

Owning a property off Kanakapura Road can ensure a pollution-less life

Kaggalipura, Udyapura, Harohalli, Kanakapura and Sathanur.

Another advantage for those buying property is that south Bengaluru is set to get its longest flyover of 1.2 km stretch on Kanakapura Road. The proposed flyover will be constructed on the Outer Ring Road-Kanakapura Road junction near Sarakki. The flyover will be constructed in such a way that the vehicles on ORR which now

get stuck for minutes at the junction will have a smooth flow of traffic while traffic congestion and the waiting time on Kanakapura Road will reduce significantly.

Another highlight of this flyover is that it will come under a Metro line. While the Metro piers are at a height of 13.5 m, the proposed flyover will come at a height of 5.5 m from the ground level. BBMP sources

said that the four-laned flyover will begin from the Ilyas Nagar junction and will have a width of 17 metres. Interestingly, we have similar 'flyovers under flyovers' at Nayandahalli-Mysore Road where the ORR flyover is below the Mysore Road flyover and on Electronics City where the NICE Road flyover is below the electronics city expressway and the proposed electronics city metro line.

BBMP officials said that they have prepared the detailed project report (DPR) and have submitted it to the government for approval. This will be part of the signal-free corridor on ORR from Mysore Road-JP Nagar stretch. Currently grade separators have been built at KEB junction, Devegowda petrol bunk junction, Dalmia junction and Muttu raj junctions, Kadirenahalli and Puttenahalli.

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STORY BEHIND THE PHOTO



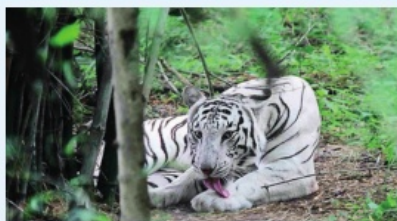
RESPITE FROM THE RAIN

An ant takes shelter from rain in an Arka flower

The picture was clicked by BM reader
P Suryanarayana

If you have a picture and a story to share, send us the picture with your name and number at mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com

DID YOU KNOW?



The Bengaluru Bannerghatta Biological Park (BBBP) was carved out of Bannerghatta National Park (BNP) in 2004 and brought under the administrative jurisdiction of the Zoo Authority of Karnataka (ZAK), Government of Karnataka (GOK). The Bannerghatta Park consists of zoos, safaris and butterfly parks. The zoo exhibits varieties of birds, reptiles and mammals within well-maintained enclosures. Safaris drive tourists through the animals' enclosures while the rescue centres provide care to the rescued animals like tigers, lions and bears from circuses, etc. The Butterfly Park and nature camps are for the people who wish to stay and study the flora and fauna in forests. The park is a unique region of ecological importance as it is situated on the northern terminal point of Mysuru Elephant Reserve. The park plays a major role in conservation of rich floral, faunal diversity, and sustains regional hydrology.

GET HEARD WITH MIRROR

9591233247

Let's see how much you know about Namma Bengaluru, folks. Tell us something incredible and mind-boggling about this beautiful city and our editors and researchers will check it out. If it's credible, we'll give it a shout-out, with your name and picture.

TAP THE CHATTER

where Bangaloreans speak their mind

What can the authorities do to help reduce crimes against strays?

**Kemparaju P S**

retired bank manager

People in our country beat up dogs with sticks until they're dead.

Authorities should book cases against such people. Many times, NGOs do complain to the police. People should be given periodic training on how to co-exist with stray animals.

**Yamuna, a dentist**

Authorities can make shelter house for dogs; food can be distributed and yearly vaccination can be given.

A sign board stating not to throw stones at dogs can be put up in each area.

**Vasantha Bhaskar, a lecturer**

People commit crimes against street dogs and other strays by beating them or injuring them with

minor to major wounds. Many run over these strays mercilessly; this has to be considered seriously and such people have to be punished. Authorities should stop ignoring such cases.

**Arvind T, lecturer**

Adequate street lights should be provided to prevent accidents of stray animals on the roads. The CCTV footage should be carefully examined to punish the guilty. Most of the time, after reckless accidents involving strays, they are left to die on the road.

**Tania Anny,**

journalism student

Government should be more concerned about street dogs and animals. Awareness campaigns about animals on the streets should be conducted and about loving street animals just like their pets. The penalty should be announced for hit-and-run cases.

SPEAK TO US

What is the one thing about the city that makes you proud to be a Bangalorean?

If you want to be featured in this section, mail us your answer to this question, in 25 words, with 'Tap The Chatter' in the subject line. Mail us with your name, occupation & a picture at mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com or WhatsApp us on 9591233247

Less road, more of a gigantic pit

Shreyashi Mukherjee
mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com

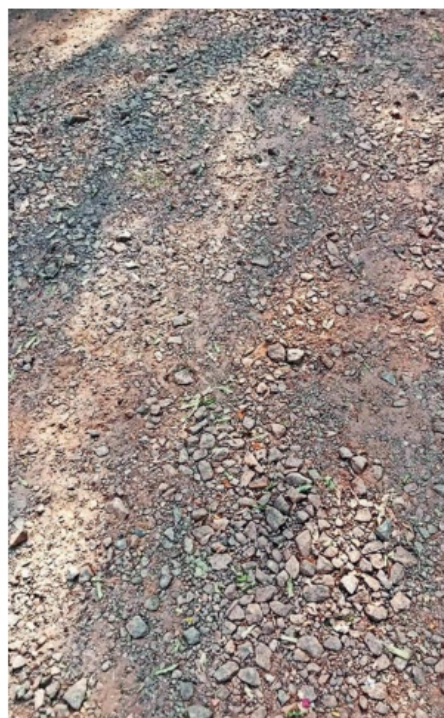
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The residents of 1st Cross, Shantivana Sanjeevini Nagar, have been facing an extremely hard time commuting, thanks to the deplorable condition of the road in their area.

They say that the road is not fit for walking or driving. The road was dug by BWSSB for underlying the drainage system almost two years ago. After that, they had visited the place several times to follow up. However, they did not fill up the hole.

A resident under condition of anonymity said: "The road has been in this state for more than two years. If they dug up the road, they should have the responsibility to fill it up. The road has become extremely narrow. It is only a 30-feet-long road. Out of that, the hole has taken up almost 15 feet. It becomes very difficult to travel via four-wheelers."

Another resident said: "I have an eight-year-old kid. He goes out with his friends to play. Every time he goes out, I get worried because the road is extremely unsafe for kids. When it gets dark, it



Walking or driving on the road is a nightmare for most residents & commuters

“The road has been in this state for more than two years. If they dug it up, they should have had the responsibility to fill it up

—A resident

becomes difficult to spot the hole. Anyone driving at night has a risk of falling in the hole.”

The wide hole has caused a lot of traffic in the area. Due to the honking of all the vehicles stuck, there is a lot of noise pollution created. Some of the residents are worried about the elderly members of the family as well.

Reema Shukla, a housewife residing in the area said: "My parents are quite old. They are at home all day so in the evening, they go out walking to get some fresh air. Because of the hole in the road, it has become extremely unsafe for them. Each one of us is very annoyed because of the lack of responsibility of the authorities."

Time and again, the residents have complained to the authorities. However, all of their efforts have gone in vain as no step was taken by the authorities.

Time to scale back

Large pangolin scales seizure puts spotlight on poaching; KFD gets cracking

Garima Prasher
mybangaloremirror
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

One of the largest ever pangolin scale seizures in November last year has put the Karnataka Forest Department officials on its toes. The Vigilance Wing of the department is planning to roll out an action plan and a project to check illegal trade of pangolins in the state.

"We have alerted all the wings of the department and have directed our staff to be highly vigilant. The department is cautious regarding this trade and is soon coming up with an action plan and a dedicated project to bring down the pangolin poaching cases in Karnataka," said Seema Garg, additional principal chief conservator of forest (vigilance), Karnataka Forest Department.

Officials say that pangolins are small animals, thus hiding the scale and trafficking it becomes easy for poachers. "Pangolin poaching cases are difficult to track. They are small mammals, and their scales can be transported easily. Moreover, they are found in different kinds of habitats out of the forest area, for example, the eastern plain areas house a good number of pangolin population," said Kumar Pushkar, APCCF (wildlife), Karnataka Forest Department.

Recently, 67 kg pangolin scales were confiscated in the state and according to conservationists, this points to a worrisome trend.



Pangolins are found in grasslands, rocky areas



Experts say demand for pangolin scales is on the rise and many poachers are concentrating on pangolin trade. According to Sharath Babu, a wildlife enthusiast, the issue is something that has been occurring since a long time but still continues, largely unchecked.

"There have been seizures of pangolin scales before in Bengaluru and other cities, but those were at much smaller scale. The amount of scales retrieved this time is unheard of and indicates that the poaching cases are on the rise," said Sharath.

Experts say officials should understand the magnitude of the situation and act upon it accordingly. "On an average, one can retrieve around 500 gm scales from an adult pangolin. To get 67.5 kg, you need over a 100 pangolins. Also, this is just one incident that came to the fore. Majority of pangolin poaching cases go unnoticed. This

mammal is mostly found in the grasslands and dry rocky areas that border the villages. Villagers have stray dogs that are trained in sniffing pangolins out of their hiding places. The meat is consumed, and scales are collected. There is no organised market, so the culprits are not caught. But, most of the seizures happen from the Karnataka-Andhra border area," said Sharath.

Heighten surveillance

According to the wildlife conservationists and experts, the need of the hour is an improved surveillance system and a dedicated intelligence cell under the Karnataka Forest Department.

"Our surveillance system should improve. The forest cell of the Police Department in the state is more active compared to the Forest Department's Vigilance wing. Moreover, the department also does not have an effective intelligence cell. They should have a dedicated intelligence cell that is exclusively working on gathering information on illegal wildlife trade. Since the majority of the seizures are happening in the border area, both the Karnataka Forest Department and Andhra Pradesh Forest departments should take up the responsibility and act on it," said a conservationist working in the region.

On an average, one can retrieve around 500 gm scales from an adult pangolin. To get 67.5 kg, you need over a 100 pangolins

—Sharath Babu, wildlife enthusiast

Harrowing end to an auto ride

Pragna L Krupa
pragna.krupa
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

A woman has filed a complaint with the Commercial Street police after she was allegedly abused and harassed by an auto driver associated with a ride sharing company for paying the fare through an online wallet.

The woman, a software engineer and a resident of Hebbal, had booked the auto from Baptist hospital to Commercial Street on Monday and had opted to pay online. Police said around 11:45 am when they reached the destination, the row broke out as the driver insisted that she pay the money in cash as his online wallet

was not working.

The woman took the issue to Twitter and raised the issue with the company alleging that their emergency panic button did not work and none of them responded to her distress calls. "He took my mobile number and kept calling me. He abused me in Kannada. After I paid for the ride, he began blasting me. I called the police. When police asked for the auto's registration number the ride share company did not help me after numerous emergency calls and messages," she said. According to her tweet, the auto driver chased her around two roads and kept using vulgar words that caused her extreme stress.

A senior officer said the driver had not assaulted her, but there

Woman claims driver abused her after they fought over mode of payment

was a verbal fight and they abused each other. "He called her a few times after the drop to vent his anger. The fight began as she informed him that she had to pay through the online wallet. In a fit of anger, the driver threatened and abused her before leaving the place," the officer said.

He said the woman did not approach them but when she took the issue up on social media they asked her to give a written complaint. "On Friday morning, she filed a complaint with us," said the investigating officer.



RAJMOHAN SUDHAKAR

EVER CHANGING MOODS

Write to him at c-rajmohan.sudhakar@timesgroup.com

Let's belong like trees

Across the city, it's been fall for many trees — the rain trees for instance — stripped bare as they shed leaves and expose their frames, and vulnerabilities too, like the youth find themselves in this country at the moment. Trees belong. No one asks why they shed or grow leaves or why they cannot.

The diversity of trees in Bengaluru speaks for itself. Some have been brought to the city from faraway lands and some have been here for aeons. They blossom, fruit and thrive — often at different times of the year — providing shade and shelter to life. And yet, we have not drawn much wisdom from their sheer magnificence.

How wonderful it would be if we left life to its agency, just as a tree — not bothering another — animal or plant, that depends on it.

But, we are adamant to prove otherwise and infringe upon basic necessities and rights of another, so that we remain in a position of power — always busy in this othering business.

Some of the trees are now growing a new set of leaves like the copperpod, in a lighter shade of green post the fall shedding, essentially marking a new beginning after a fell winter gives way to spring; if you can call the very brief interlude before the blazing summer, spring.

That this is somehow coinciding with the opening of the global economy after the pandemic is chance apart, why some are eager to disrupt/nip the slow but steady revival, or the so-called green shoots, at home and abroad is as absurd as it is intriguing.

Somewhat you see, for two years, power centres had gotten used to a 'no-checks-and-balances' style of administration piggy-backing on the coronavirus, blatantly abusing powers and oftentimes not only disenfranchising the poor and marginalised but making the quick buck of it. Yes, profiteering. Certainly, as things go back to normal, there is inertia, alongside the tendency to oppress: the only weapon in the arsenal, the deprivation of the feeling of belonging of those who have the definitive right to perceive and conduct life differently from how you do in the collective. Plainly put, what is your effing problem? Are you from the dark ages or something?

While the neoliberal global order is still religiously warmongering on the eastern flank of Europe to further 'America's business of war', at home, one is reminded of the apex court judges' press conference of 2018 as earnest jurisprudence seemingly dilly-dally on issues that need urgent resolution before some of the burning questions become the new normal in the collective's inability to pursue justice. The agenda is to tire the citizenry into submission no doubt: of course, they shall make do with



Propeller blade-like seed pods

the bits and scraps spilling out of the platters of the rich and famous — nevertheless, not a blemish on 'imandar' politicians or media!

Right now, the issue may be the citizens' constitutional right to clothing, but if you look closely, a pattern emerges where the doors of democracy are closing in on the vulnerable and marginalised in the scramble, perhaps violations would be a better word, of the rulers to hold on to power.

The issues are manifold — where unanswered questions linger — for instance, prolonged and unjustified detention of citizens, Pegasus scandal, electoral bonds, abhorrent killing of farmers in Lakhimpur Kheri and deaths of over 700 farmers yet to be acknowledged after a year-long agitation — issue after issue exposes an absolute lack of empathy towards citizens who elected these very representatives.

Why aren't you capable of good, eh?

In Bengaluru, we see the deprived girl child of the global south — some malnourished and stunted as per latest global reports — desperately seeking an education to find that sure foot in the so-called gig economy; subjecting her to a horrid politically motivated trial, that in the process diabolically manages to further the othering and antagonising of a community, amounts to cardinal sin in unpredictable and tumultuous times. Surely, these are times of utter penury for many and the only thing you seem to be doing is target and torment the vulnerable rather than reconcile, and assimilate everyone under the umbrella of a vibrant Republic.

Instead, as you repeatedly tell somebody they do not belong, you declare that you lack all sorts of human emotion instance after instance in your inability to empathise with the other, leave alone comprehending another political standpoint. Perhaps you need help with your mental faculties, as we all do post the coronavirus pandemic. Have you thought about it in earnest, before shutting doors to schoolchildren based on their faith?

As a political commentator put it, a simple comparison of tweets of contenders in the UP elections exposes the vile agenda at work, especially of the incumbent; I don't even want to dwell into what the election commission is doing.

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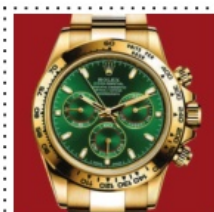
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CHANGE OF NAME

I, VENKATESAN KRISHNAMOORTHY (Old Name), R/o Flat 203, Spring seas Sunshine Apartment, Vastu Bhoomi Layout, Seeghalli, Bangalore 67. I Have Changed My name to **VENKATESAN KRISHNAMURTHI** (New Name). Vide affidavit dated 18-02-22 Sworn before notary Uday Kumar K. Bangalore.

I Swapna Yatti D/O, Vasant Nadkarni R/o 44/100, 6th Cross, Malleshwaram, Bangalore have changed my name to Swapna Nadkarni, affidavit dated 16/02/2022 notary C Srinivas, Bangalore

I, R.V. HEMALATHA, W/o Mr. Ganga Prasad B.C., R/o No 117, Ground Floor, 17th Cross, behind A.V Education School, J.P Nagar 5th Phase, B'lore-78. I Here by declare that my son B.G. JEEVAN was student of St Paul's English School and passed his SSLC in 2019-20 but in his SSLC Marks Card having UDI No 7074581 date of Birth is Wrongly mentioned as 17-07-2004. I Request the concerned authority to kindly incorporate his correct DOB as 17-11-2004. Vide affidavit dated 17-02-2022. Sworn Before notary Arvind Patil G G. Bangalore.

I, MANJULATHA SHARMA W/o Late Binod Sharma residing at Dsouza House, No.9, 19th 'C' Cross, 7th Main, BTM 2nd Stage, Bangalore-560076 have changed my name to **MANJULATA SHARMA** vide affidavit dated 15.02.2022 sworn before notary D.S Chandra kanth, Bangalore.

I, SANJAY SIMPI (Old Name), R/o 387, Block No 115, Near Ganesha Temple, KHB Col, Shirke Apt, K S Town, Bangalore 60. I Have Changed my name to **SANJAY BASAVANNEPPA SHIMPI** (New Name). Vide affidavit dated 16-02-22 Sworn Before Notary Uday Kumar K. B'lore.

I, MALLESWARI SUDARSAN, R/o. #18/207, Ananda Krishna Residency, 12th Crs, Maruthi Nagar, Blr-68, have changed my name to **MALLESWARI SUDARSANAN** vide affidavit dt: 18/02/22 before Notary Notary K.MURALIDHARAN, B'lr.

I Purna Umesh D/o Umesha Srinivas Reddy R/o No.32-33, Srinela Nilayam, 4th main, Santhrupthi nagar, JP Nagar 7th phase, Bangalore-560078 have changed my name to Purna Umesha Reddy

I, MOHAMED SHABEER R/o No 88, 1st MAIN ROAD, EX SERVICEMEN COLONY, RT NAGAR P.O, BENGALURU-560032 have changed my name to MOHAMMED SHABEER

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Mysuru, behold. New attractions on the way

Legislator, tourism minister plan to develop new tourism spots. Work to begin with Badanaval village

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

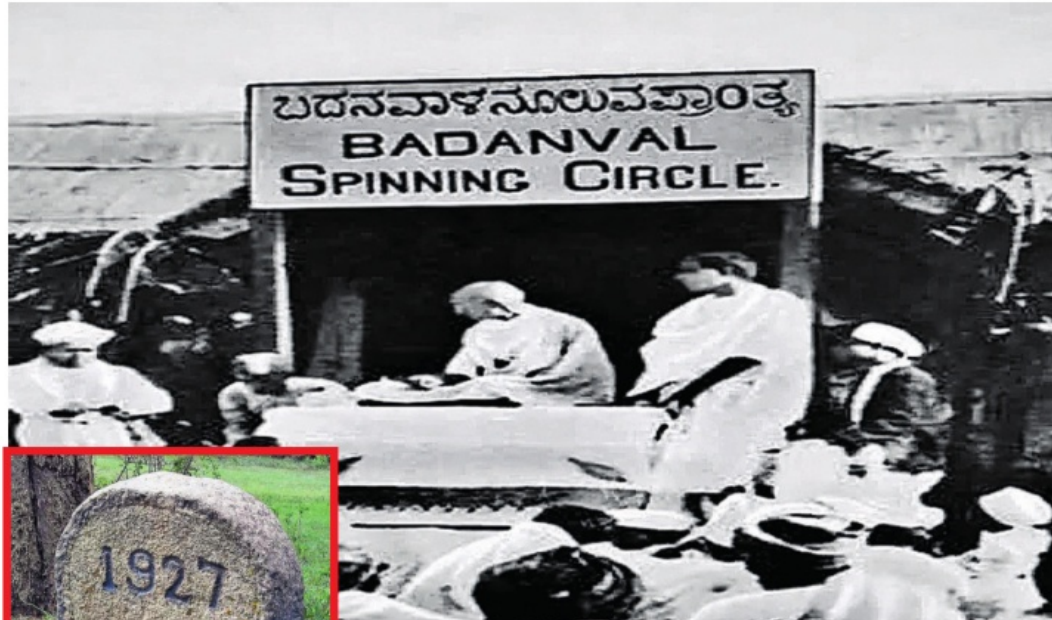
Mysuru will be having more tourist attractions soon. In an effort to develop tourist attractions in Mysuru and surrounding areas, it is planned to develop Badanaval village like Sabarmati Ashram in Gujarat. Usually tourists are restricted to Mysuru Palace, KRS, Chamundi Hills and the Zoo when visiting Mysuru.

Nanjangud Legislator Harshavardhan and Tourism Minister Anand Singh discussed the development of the village. Singh showed interest in the project and wanted to take the project up after gathering details.

Badanaval village is a historically significant village which Mahatma Gandhi visited in 1927 to promote boycotting foreign products and use of local products.

It will require Rs 20 crore to develop Badanaval like Sabarmati Ashram. Tourism Minister has responded positively

—Harshavardhan, Legislator, Nanjangud



Mahatma Gandhi visited Badanaval in 1927 to promote Swadeshi movement



Gandhi appreciated the Khadi and Gramodyog industry which was started by the women of the village. He also told them to continue with their village industries.

Harshavardhan requested Singh to release Rs10 crore as funds for developing Badanaval along the lines of the Sabarmati. Singh

showed interest in the project and assured him of releasing the funds.

Harshavardhan said, "To develop Badanaval village like Sabarmati, we have developed a plan. It will require Rs 20 crore. He (Singh) responded to the request positively. I hope the funds will be allotted in the budget."

The National Highway connecting the city to Kerala and Tamil Nadu is close to Nanjangud. Kapila Vana, a project to develop a botanical garden like Ooty, is also a part of the plans to develop tourism.

Funds worth Rs 10 crore were requested for the project.

History tourism

Prior to Covid-19, a survey was conducted to develop new tourism spots. The villages of historical importance were also identified to develop them into tourist spots. Now, the idea is taking shape and its implementation will begin with Badanaval village. Once developed, the village will attract history enthusiasts from all over the country.

Cabinet nod for ropeway project under PPP model

Bangalore Mirror Bureau
mybangaloremirror
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

On Thursday, the state cabinet gave the green signal for development and operation of passenger ropeway at Nandi Hills under the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model. The overall project will be undertaken at a cost of Rs 93.4 crore on a (Design-Build-Finance-Operate-Transfer) DBFOT basis. The rope way will be 2.93 km long and will have 18 towers with a round trip time of 28 minutes. It will carry 50 cabins and 10 passengers in each gondola. The project will also include development of modern amenities for tourists like restaurants, food court, shops, etc.

Ropeway will carry 50 cabins and 10 passengers in each gondola. The project will also include development of modern amenities for tourists like restaurants, food court, shops, etc

Health Minister and Chikkaballapur MLA Dr K Sudhakar said, "Nandi Hills has emerged as a popular weekend getaway for youngsters. Apart from its rich biodiversity, trekking trails and scenic beauty, the presence of the historic Bhoganandishwara Temple makes the hills a potential must-see tourist destination in Karnataka. With a passenger ropeway and other modern amenities, it will become an international tourist destination and will be a significant milestone in the development journey of Chikkaballapura."

Bengaluru in top 15 for running, walking in MoHUA challenges

Iffath Fathima
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TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

Bengaluru ranked among top 15 cities covering maximum kilometres in running and walking, as part of the Smart City mission held by the union ministry.

The Smart Cities Mission, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, as part of the activities undertaken under the Azadi Ka Amrut Mahotsav, launched nationwide unique challenges between January 1 and 26. The challenges included freedom to walk and cycle challenges for city leaders, in order to incorporate healthier practice amongst the citizens.

The challenges saw a great response all over the country. Over 20,000 citizens participated across 75 cities which were registered for the challenge, including Bengaluru. In the challenge, citizens achieved over 1,82,000 km of walking and over 9 lakh km of cycling and 9,350 km of running.



Participants wearing masks and walking for Smart Cities Mission, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs

Bengaluru ranked among the top 15 cities covering maximum kilometres of running and walking. Citizens covered over 3,953 km of walking between January 1 and 26. Under the category of maximum running, Bengaluru achieved a distance of 245.59 km.

Some other cities who scored top positions were Ajmer, Chennai, Chandigarh, Jaipur, Belagavi, Vadodara, Rajkot, Bhopal and Ahmedabad

One had to register for the challenge by downloading the STRAVA app and signing up for the 'Freedom2Walk' or 'Freedom2cycle' events. The app is required to track the rides/walks and should be linked to the All For Sports (AFS) portal to make sure the tracked exercise is counted in the city challenge.

The campaign aimed to promote green mobility. Back in June 2020, the Smart Cities Mission launched the India Cycles4Change Challenge to encourage cities to empower more people to access and use cycles, thereby pushing for infrastructural interventions to ensure road safety and personal security.

A Bengaluru Smart City Limited (BSCL) official said, "The challenge was a good initiative where citizens were involved in various activities. Many were consistently doing the challenge and it helped Bengaluru reach a good rank. It had instilled regular walking and running habits among many citizens for a healthier lifestyle. Short distance walking and running can improve physical fitness and productivity at work."

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Tailoring to freedom

KAUSHIK JN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

development programme and trained in tailoring. Within a month, she learnt the craft and started to stitch clothes, handbags and other materials.

Bhagyamma told BM that learning tailoring helped her immensely as she gradually started to earn money: "During the pandemic and subsequent lockdowns, job losses and financial crises, I decided to take up work and help other women. I taught tailoring to a lot of women who were in need and had no other jobs. I took stitching orders from the police commissioner's office and started stitching masks, PPE kits and gloves. Slowly I started to assign my students the work of stitching masks; I monitored them until they could master the craft. Eventually I gave them more work and paid them for stitching masks and PPE kits. In the first wave, we stitched about 8,000 masks, which was a big hit; a lot of people approached us to get masks stitched. In 2020, I registered the business under Sri Lakshmi Venkateshwara Crafton and opened a small space in the parking space of our building. Now, I even file IT returns and have a registered bill book. Currently, I have a contract with six to 10 hotels and restaurants in the city where I send cloth handbags for food takeaways. We stitch about 10,000 bags every month; Moreover, now, I am independent and take care of both my children's education."

Veenaraval (42), a theatre artist who works with Bhagyamma told Mirror that earlier she used to earn some money through theatre but during covid she was badly affected — now, with the help of Bhagyamma, she has been able to find work and take care of her family: "I started working with her when the pandemic began, when I had no work; my family was dependent on me financially. She helped me and five other women, who currently work with her. We sometimes sit with her and stitch and at times take garments home to complete the work. She takes the orders and delivers them personally," Veenaraval said.



Bhagyamma busy at work at her establishment in Sunkadakatte

Rani Shetty, in charge of Parihar/Vanitha Sahayavani, said Bhagyamma was abused by her husband and did not have any skill to earn a living and care for her children when she approached the helpline. "After counselling, we decided to provide her skill development training through which she learnt

stitching of bags. We gave her a tailoring machine. She worked really hard and started her own business of supplying cloth bags to hotels and restaurants. She not only empowered herself, she is also helping other women in the area by teaching them tailoring free-of-cost and providing employment," she said.

Skywalk the talk, please

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

public transport utilities have come down due to the pandemic — like people working from home or not going to their workplaces, or not following their travel routines or routes they often follow due to covid related changes in work patterns, or for instance, students not going to schools, colleges, and the like. There are a lot of factors that have resulted in changes in travel patterns and travel demands of the normal citizen. These factors have affected the use of skywalks to a large extent. "It's like the chicken and egg problem; if the authorities do not maintain the utilities, they turn dirty, and become unusable over a period of time. When the corporation develops and constructs skywalks, it should have a dedicated budget and plan for maintenance, so that they are clean and operational all the time. Why would anyone take the staircase instead of the lifts, if they aren't switched off and operational," Verma reiterated.

"In terms of demand, the authorities have to wait for some more time for people to return to their jobs, so the demand is back like pre-pandemic times; but there is no excuse for not maintaining these facilities and not keeping them operational, because you also make people realise that these infrastructures are unreliable then," Verma added.

According to BBMP sources, there are 51 skywalks in the city — a few of

them are still under construction. A contractor in charge of a skywalk told this newspaper that the authorities are observing as to how many people really use a skywalk on a given day and depending on that they switch off the power or generators.

"When such projects are planned and built, there are also feasibility studies taken up as to gauge how many people will actually benefit; but in this case it's a major failure as all the tax-payers money has gone down the drain since the authorities are not maintaining such facilities that are very much required for safe public mobility," Prasad pointed out.

However, BBMP's traffic engineering cell maintained that the problem persists at those skywalks that are still under construction. "A few of the skywalks are still under construction; at Lakkasandra, work is still in progress. In the coming days, we will call for tenders for the annual maintenance contract after getting the approval from the competent authorities; it will be maintained well," executive engineer Praveen Lingaiah told BM.

"Unlike Lakkasandra skywalk which is solely a BBMP grant project, many skywalks come under Public-Private Partnership (PPP) models, maintained well with operational lifts," Lingaiah added.

However, activists said the officials are simply 'lying through their teeth'.

How LIC policyholders can check unclaimed amount

LIC had unclaimed funds to the tune of Rs 21,539 crore as of September 2021, according to the draft prospectus filed for its IPO with SEBI, as per a PTI news report. This includes interest earned over the outstanding unclaimed amount.

Here is how LIC policyholders can check if there is any unclaimed or outstanding amount against their policies with the PSU life insurer.

How to check for unclaimed amount

If you have any unclaimed LIC amounts or outstanding policy dues, you can check with the policy provider online by simply providing your policy details. Your death claim, maturity claim, survival benefits, indemnity claims, or premium refunds could all be unclaimed.

If any LIC policyholder or a beneficiary wants to know whether any amount under his/her LIC policy is lying unclaimed with the insurer, he/she can do so by entering the following details.

Step 1: Visit the link <https://customer.onlinelic.in/LICEPS/portlets/visitor/unclaimedPolicyDues/>



LIC filed for its IPO with SEBI recently

UnclaimedPolicyDuesController.jspf

Step 2: Enter all the details required and click submit.

The total amount if any will be disclosed and you can claim the same following proper KYC and submission of documents. Note that all payments due to the policyholders relating to insurance policies shall be routed through the respective bank accounts through any electronic mode as may be permitted by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) from time to time.

What the rules state

Every insurer is required to display information about any unclaimed amount of Rs 1,000 or more on their respective websites (to continue even after completion of 10 years) and a facility is to be provided on the website to enable policyholders or beneficiaries to verify unclaimed amount due to them, stated the PTI report.

Further, it said, the unclaimed amounts circular by Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) prescribes the procedures relating to the mode of payment of the unclaimed amount, communication to the policyholders, accounting, utilization of investment income etc.

What IRDAI states on unclaimed funds:

On November 17, 2020, the IRDAI issued the Unclaimed Amounts Circular, which updated the criteria set forth in the previous master circular, particularly in regard to unclaimed amount monitoring, reporting, and certification.

According to the circular, the unclaimed

amounts circular forbids the insurer from writing back any part of the unclaimed amount owed to policyholders/beneficiaries in any scenario.

What Senior Citizens' Welfare Fund states on unclaimed funds:

According to the Senior Citizens' Welfare Fund (SCWF) Act, unclaimed funds held by policyholders for more than ten years must be transferred to the SCWF. The rules specify which entities must send funds to the SCWF and include provisions governing its administration.

According to rules, "Every insurer is required to display information about any unclaimed amount of Rs 1,000 or more on their respective websites (to continue even after completion of 10 years) and a facility is to be provided on the website to enable policyholders or beneficiaries to verify unclaimed amount due to them. Further, the Unclaimed Amounts Circular prescribes the procedures relating to the mode of payment of the unclaimed amount, communication to the policyholders, accounting, utilization of investment income etc."

-Sneha Kulkarni, ET Online



BEST OF

DR MAHINDER WATSA

The finest responses of Dr Watsa are being republished in this column as a tribute to him.

1 I am 40 years old. Until two years ago, I had normal erections. Now, I don't get an erection even when I am sexually excited or when I masturbate. The erection is sagging and I ejaculate too soon. What can I do to cure this?

Think carefully about what might have caused this change. Then, seek a sexpert's opinion.

2 I am 28 years old and my penis is slightly bent towards the left. How can I correct this? Can it affect my sex life?
Visit an urologist. A slight bend will not affect your future sex life.

3 I am 20 years old and my partner is 19. We have protected sex two-three times a month. For the past month, my girlfriend has noticed a white liquid oozing out from her right breast when she squeezes it. We have stopped having sex. When she told her mother about it, she said it might be because of the bra she was wearing. Her periods, though, are normal and on time.

The milk glands have been stimulated either by compression or due to a gland problem. It will need further investigation if the condition persists.

4 I'm a 21-year-old man. When I masturbate, I ejaculate within two minutes. How will my erection last longer?
Learn Kegel exercises. You can Google them. Do them religiously for the rest of your life.

MEET THE SEXPERTS

Use this QR code to send your questions to us



Key to healthy happy body

Expert says decluttering diet can boost wellbeing, make you stronger, leaner

Kalwyna Rathod
mybangaloremirror
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

D ecluttering your mind, and also your home, has gained immense popularity in the recent past. But doing the right thing starts with being goal-oriented, so if your goal is to have a stronger and leaner body, and you are training hard for the same, it's probably a good idea to Mary Kondo your diet for a little boost! Sahiba B. – MS Nutrition Science & Research Policy, USA, shares the essentials that you need to remove from your diet to achieve your fitness goals.

Eight pm rule

As per Ayurveda, 10 pm to am is the time when our liver is busy cleansing and detoxifying itself, and the body is decluttering and removing toxins from itself so it can regenerate cells and repair cell damage. Before the cleansing in our body begins, we need our food to be digested, metabolised and absorbed. As such, you need to finish your dinner in the evening, which is a realistic time while the ideal time would be 6 pm. Note that eating heavy, salty meals late in the evening (post sunset) will only lead to bloating, inflammation and fat deposition.

Bid sweet goodbyes

Sugar in all its different names and forms is nothing but empty calories with no nutritional value. Some natural alternatives may seem slightly healthy but have very little nutritional benefits. They simply add to your daily caloric intake and contribute to inflammation in the gut. In turn, this can affect nutrition absorption and leaky gut syndrome. Sports/energy drinks, protein bars

have sugar in alarming quantities that can derail your fitness progress.

Process this

Processed, packaged, canned foods are high in sodium, sugar, artificial stabilisers, vegetable oils, etc. which do more harm than good to your health. If your goal is to have a fitter, leaner looking body then avoid them as much as possible. Anything that comes in a box/can should be negligible in your diet. Burgers, pizzas, fries, hot dogs, bhaturas, samosas, chips, cup noodles, and the like should be on your 'once-a-year-food' list.

Get rid of poor quality proteins

If you think adding soya nuggets, soya chunks, chaps to your plan is helping you meet your protein needs, sorry to burst your bubble. These are not good quality

proteins, in fact they come under the processed food category. They are industrially produced, ripped off all nutrition, leaving only soy isolate and synthetic ingredients behind. These not only hamper your fitness progress but also leave you bloated and may increase your risk of hormonal imbalance. So keep your diet clean and add high quality proteins like organic eggs, poultry, organic A2 milk and milk products, tofu, edamame, soybeans to your meals.

Remove vegetable, refined oils

The Omega 6 to Omega 3 ratio in industrially produced vegetable oils and seed oils is skewed, making them pro-inflammatory. The acceptable ratio is 3:1 but these are as high as 15 to 20:1. Replace them with organic desi ghee, pure mustard oil and olive oil and see the difference.

Limit foods that dehydrate

Yes, removing excess water from the body helps you tip the scales in your favour. However, doing so every day with the help of supplements is not beneficial in the long run as it can lead to electrolyte imbalance and a drop in blood pressure. Consuming caffeinated beverages and alcohol expel water from the body, leaving it parched which leads to water retention – the body's mechanism of storing water. Hence, limit consumption of dehydrating beverages and replace them with lemon water, coconut water, vegetable juices and clear soups.

In conclusion, Sahiba says, "Remove the fear of food, the guilt associated with certain foods and body shame. Heal your relationship with food and your body, and only then will that stronger, leaner body be a healthy and happy one too."



MIRRORLIGHTS

Day or night?

Become a bit lean and mean – carve a few minutes just for yourself in the name of self-love. You see, a little goes a long way, and exercising or stretching at least for five minutes will prove to be helpful in the long run. But until you allow your body to get used to movement, the body won't get addicted to cardio workouts at the gym or home yoga. Once you set your mind to it, comes the question of 'When to exercise?'. For years, we have been hearing that it's best to wake up early in the morning and exercise.

First things first! You can exercise at any time of the day. Choose a time you can commit to, every day.

Morning sweaty workouts can be a boon. Running, walking, yoga

in the morning can enhance your mood and pump up some adrenaline. Hormones are at their peak levels at the time you wake up, so adding some workout flows during that first hour can help tremendously in managing hormone levels. Also, if you want to lose weight, morning workouts can be beneficial. Morning workouts will help you channel your inner boss babe, making you feel focused and more productive, driving away procrastination and laziness.

All the pros aside, researchers have claimed that working out in the evening seems to be a much better choice. The reason being, body function improves by 10 times as the day passes by, and anyone who exercises in the evening takes up to 20 per cent longer to reach peak exhaustion level.



As the body lives through the day and gets on the move, it won't feel stiff while doing any workout routine in the evening. Why? Because it gets warmer! Of course, a little warm-up is advisable, always. An evening workout routine can help you in solving any sleep related issues. Also, a little stretch routine

can help you unwind before you crawl into bed.

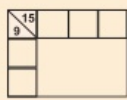
Pursue what feels good and stick with it. Just be consistent and remember that daily exercise can help not only your physical health but also your emotional health and mental wellbeing.

—Vrushali Khadilkar

A candidate secured 30% marks and failed by 6 marks. Another candidate secured 40% marks and got 6 marks more than the minimum pass marks. What is the % of marks necessary to pass?

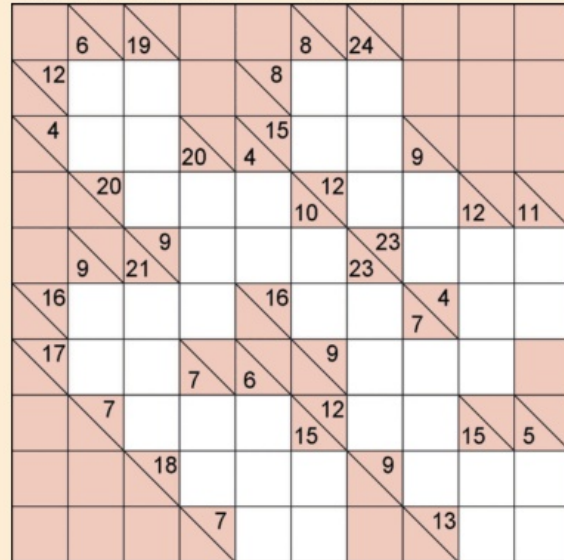
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

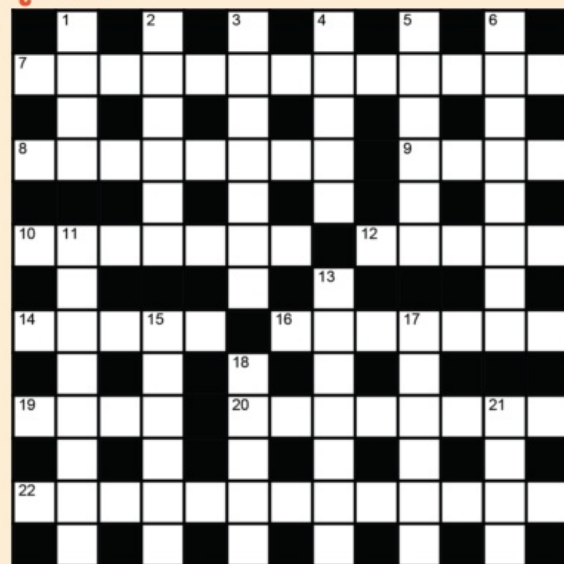


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

- 7 Underprivileged (13)
- 8 Lets saliva trickle from the mouth? (8)
- 9 Baby carriage (4)
- 10 Baby's recreation area (7)
- 12 Confess (5)
- 14 Egg-shaped (5)
- 16 Means of paying some bills (7)
- 19 Rebekah's son (4)
- 20 Bullfighter (8)
- 22 The beginning and the end? (5,3,5)

DOWN

- 1 Teller of falsehoods (4)
- 2 Gulf of ____ : gulf off Gujarat coast? (6)
- 3 Derived, progressed, came about (7)
- 4 Grind one's teeth (5)
- 5 Bivouacked (6)
- 6 Edible jelly (8)
- 11 Excessively, extravagantly or luxuriantly (8)
- 13 Travesty (7)
- 15 Instructed or enlightened? (6)
- 17 Misgivings (6)
- 18 Drinking-tube (5)
- 21 A wild revel (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: E EQUALS U
 ZICKJ JIE KFX JIE! ZDKZ BO
 ZFEXF ZDKL ZFEX! ZDXFX BO
 LI ILX KABUX YDI BO JIE-XF
 ZDKL JIE!



Linemaro

Simplicity is the ultimate sophistication and you are a perfect example of it



Mindchow

It's lonely at the top, but you eat better



Joke of the day

We are born naked, wet, and hungry. Then things get worse

Loop

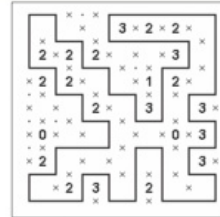
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

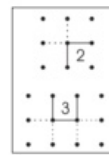
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) - Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

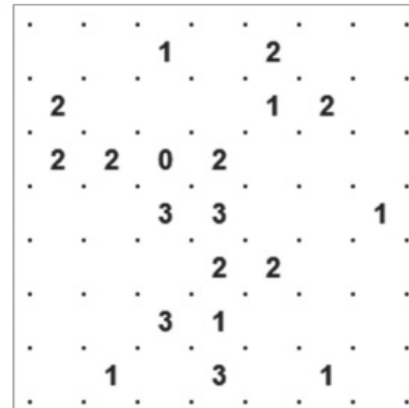
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



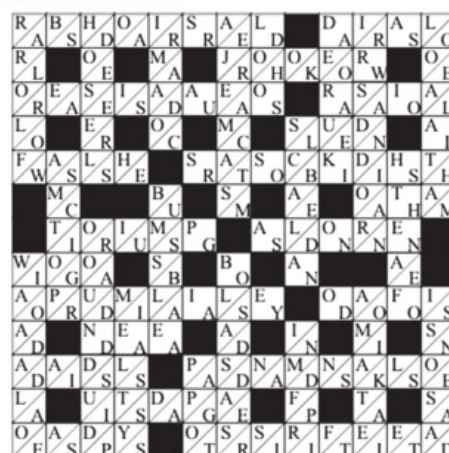
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



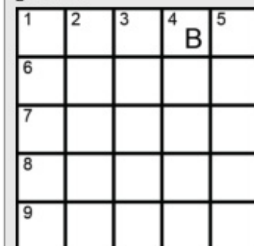
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

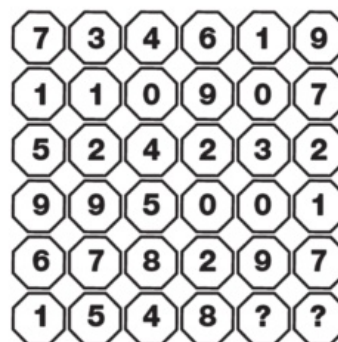
- 1 Be erg; 6 Niler;
- 7 Oasis; 8 NHS us;
- 9 Gees I

DOWN

- 1 Slogs; 2 Irish;
- 3 Us ENE; 4 Begin;
- 5 A seer

Mensapuzzle

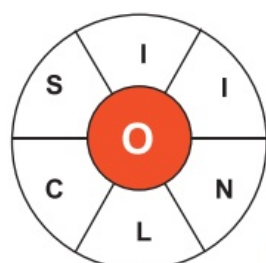
Which numbers complete the puzzle?



Bull's eye

How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

08 Average; 09 Good; 11 Outstanding



SudokuChallenge



To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.



Easy

□ □ □ □ □ = 13

6 7 9 9

Medium

□ □ □ □ □ = 9

1 2 2 5

Hard

□ □ □ □ □ = 1

3 5 8 5

Hocusfocus



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Brush bristles are longer. 2. Tarp is wider. 3. Fence board is shorter. 4. Pocket is missing from golf bag. 5. Hat is different. 6. Label on paint can is larger.

Riddler

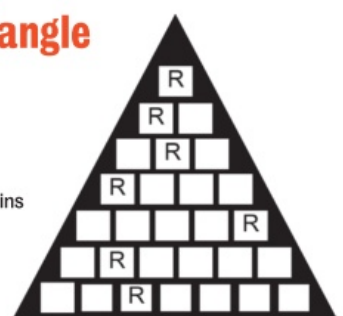
It cannot be seen, cannot be felt, Cannot be heard, cannot be smelt. It lies behind stars and under hills, And empty holes it fills. It comes first and follows after, Ends life, kills laughter. What is it?

Alpha triangle

- 1 Right letter
- 2 Again, abbr.
- 3 Temper
- 4 Commute
- 5 Apple product
- 6 Recognition
- 7 Commands; ordains

Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made

at each step answering to the clue given.



COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson



Bizarrotrip



Diamond Lil



Hart of the city



Crankschaft



Mutts



WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 - Apr 20

You will be successful in avoiding worthless expenditure, which will boost your bank balance. Be careful regarding the health of children. Singles may experience unexpected progress in terms of marriage. Persons involved with travel, diplomats and supply chains will do better. Beware of stomach issues.



Leo Jul 24 - Aug 23

Today, your energy levels will be high. It will make you happy and optimistic to fulfil your desires with the help of hard work. You will plan to go on an outing with friends and family to share your happiness. Students will hear good news in terms of studies.



Sagittarius Nov 23 - Dec 22

Today will be a busy day for you at work. An overload may make you tired but you will enjoy your work. You will not spend money on worthless stuff. You will be more polite to your family, friends and loved ones. You may also get some good news from family members.



Taurus Apr 21 - May 20

Your plans on the professional front will fail. But don't let your arrogance get in the way of your day. Else, it may affect important decisions involving investments and relationships. Couples and love birds must avoid arguments to maintain harmony in their relationships. Students must avoid looking for shortcuts in their studies.



Virgo Aug 24 - Sep 23

Until late afternoon your day will not be good. You may feel unhappy and become nervous but afternoon onwards, you will be more happy. Your internal vitality will boost your self confidence. Avoid carelessness in finances, profession and studies. You may face self-respect-related issues with your spouse. Be patient. Else you will be unable to avoid converting happy moments into bad ones.



Capricorn Dec 23 - Jan 20

Blessings from elders will give you confidence. Follow your intuition before taking any initiatives. Your intuition will help to gain more in terms of finances. You will plan to visit some religious places, with your family members. You shall control your arrogance to enjoy your domestic life. Students may expect good results with the help of destiny.



Gemini May 21 - Jun 21

Today the moon will make you more sensitive and emotional. Avoid investing in real estate or other assets. Take care of your parents and keep an eye on their health. You may expect a delay in work. But deal with it with patience. On the professional front, you must avoid being indecisive.



Libra Sep 24 - Oct 22

Today your tendency to overspend will affect your savings. Be careful while expressing yourself at work or on the domestic front. Avoid lending money. Postpone important decisions in real estate and other assets issues.



Aquarius Jan 21 - Feb 19

Before noon, you may feel happy and enjoy your work. Afternoon onwards, negative feelings will make you feel dull. This will affect your professional life and you can expect some domestic disputes. Avoid lending money to anyone. It might not be recoverable easily. Occult sciences will attract you today.



Cancer Jun 22 - July 23

Be glad. Today is a good day. You will be able to maintain a balance between your earnings and expenditure, which will boost your finances. Your network will help you to implement plans. Your siblings and subordinates will be more helpful today. Plan to visit elders or a religious place.



Scorpio Oct 23 - Nov 22

Today, you'll go to a social gathering and re-establish your network, which will give you benefits in the near future. Those related to glamour, art and fashion will plan to do something new in their profession. Students will perform better today in studies. Love birds will enjoy happy moments.



Pisces Feb 20 - Mar 20

Today you are blessed by the moon. You will be in a good mood in the morning. You will be more romantic and boost harmony in your domestic life. Patience will help you to do your best professionally. You will see some coordination with your colleagues and business partners.



KIDZONE



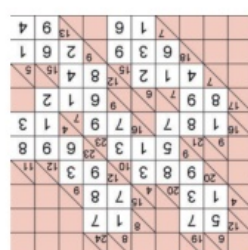
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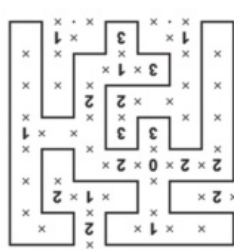
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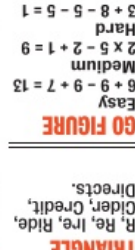
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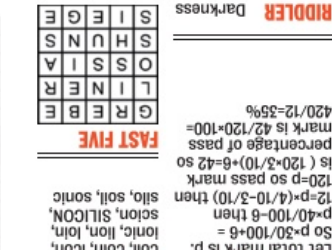
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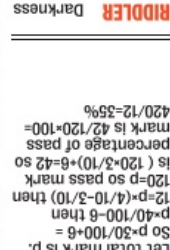
QUICK



STRIKE OUT



BULL'S EYE



RIDDLER

Sibling revelry

B-Town audiences love their older siblings. Now the younger ones to take stage

Bollywood is brimming with new faces and there's a lot more to come. Star siblings are making their way in the industry. Having an older sibling in the industry can go either way - make the debut process easier or even create a pressure of expectations. Wondering who the freshers are? From Kriti Sanon's sister Nupur Sanon to Mahaakshay Chakraborty's brother Namashi Chakraborty, and Janvhi Kapoor's sister Khushi Kapoor, this is quite a list!

Khushi Kapoor

Janvhi Kapoor's sister Khushi Kapoor will be following in the footsteps of her sister and joining the industry. While she is leaving no stone unturned to prep for her launch project, Boney Kapoor had confirmed the news to BT and shared that a big announcement will be made soon.



Nupur Sanon

After a successful video collaboration with Akshay Kumar, Kriti Sanon's singer sister Nupur Sanon is all set to foray into films. She will be starring in her first Bollywood film titled 'Noorani Chehra' with Nawazuddin Siddiqui. The film is backed by Panorama Studios, Wild River Pictures and Pulp Fiction Entertainment. The first look poster of the film was released earlier this week.

Surilie Gautam

While the news of Yami Gautam's sister Surilie's first Bollywood break hit headlines years ago, fans speculated that her first project has been shelved after quite some time. Later Yami made it clear that her sister is in talks with director Rajkumar Santoshi for the same. Sharing her excitement, she had posted a picture with the filmmaker and Surilie that read, "Super excited for my little boo @surilie_j_singh on her debut 'Battle of Saragarhi' with the one and only #rajkumarsantoshi!!" The film will star Randeep Hooda opposite the new actress and will focus on the battle of Saragarhi.



Namashi Chakraborty

Mithun Chakraborty's son and Mahaakshay's brother, Namashi Chakraborty, is gearing up for the release of his debut film 'Bad Boy'. The film marks the debut of Amrin Qureshi, daughter of Sajid Qureshi who is producing the film. It's helmed by Rajkumar Santoshi. The makers are expected to lock the release date in the second half of this year.

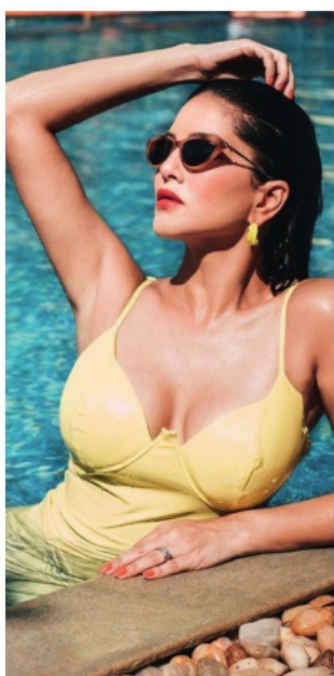


Sunny Leone victim of loan fraud

Actor Sunny Leone has alleged that her PAN card was misused in a loan fraud. The actor, in a now-deleted tweet, alleged that her PAN was used to procure a loan of Rs 2,000. Leone tweeted, "Some idiot used my Pan to take a 2000 Rs loan," reports moneycontrol.com. She also added that a financial firm did "nothing" to help her.

After her issue was resolved, the actor took to her handle again to thank the financial firm and said, "I know you will take care of all the others who have issues to avoid this in the future. NO ONE WANTS TO DEAL WITH A BAD CIBIL!!! In ref. to my previous post."

While she was at it, she also reached out to a person tangled in a similar situation. The Twitter user tagged the actor, "I complained everywhere and I visited their head office but still they keep calling me and asking for loan which I didn't take." The actor shared the post and said, "Help this person!!!!!"



Tharun Kishore Sudhir drops D56 theme poster with a bang

Director Tharun Kishore Sudhir, who had created a buzz with the posters of Roberrrt, has made similar impact with his next film with Darshan. The film, temporarily titled D56, has announced its arrival with a bang with its theme poster, which was unveiled on Wednesday on the occasion of the actor's birthday. The poster shows a dog as the leader, and behind a flock of sheep, comes with an interesting line in Kannada, which translates to 'the responsibility of the one who is leading to show the way to those who are following'. This line points to the leader and protector. The film is said to be based on true incidents, and more



details will be revealed closer to the project going on floors. Tharun's first association with Darshan was with Chowka, in which he played a pivotal role. This will be their second

outing together. Darshan is currently shooting for V Harikrishna's Kranti. Tharun is working as a creative head for Sharan's Guru Shishyaru.

— Mahesha H